

7408

# Cypress Lumber



*This log made over 6000 feet of Cypress Lumber.*

## and its Uses





JUN 22 '28

# CYPRRESS LUMBER

## AND ITS USES

THIRD EDITION

Copyright  
1900

Long Distance  
Telephones



Revised with Illus-  
trations & All New

### THE A. T. STEARNS LUMBER COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1849

Main Office, Mills & Wharves at Neponset  
Branch Office & Exhibit, No. 166 Devon-  
shire Street & No. 19 Federal Street & &  
Haymarket Square Salesroom, No. 1 Sud-  
bury Street, cor. Merrimac Street & & &

P. O. Address, Neponset (Boston), Mass. BOSTON

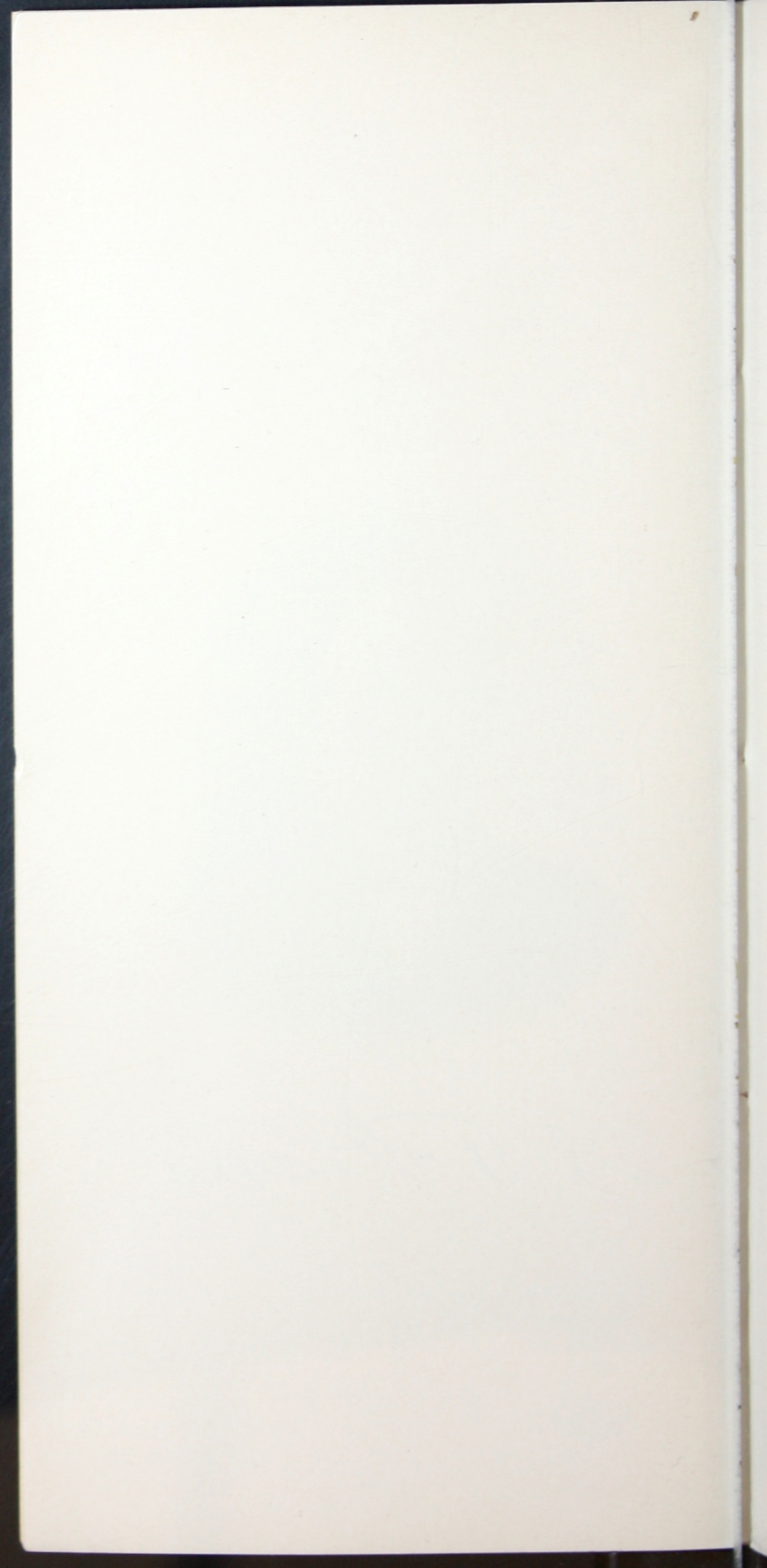






*A. T. Stearns.*

IO 89-62154 TCF





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*Established 1849*

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## Preface to Third Edition

SINCE issuing our early editions of this volume, CYPRESS has become so well known and so universally used, that we feel that we may safely eliminate from this edition much matter descriptive of the cypress tree, its habits, the historical uses of the wood, etc., all of which seemed of considerable importance before the lumber became so generally known. We shall, however, be more than pleased to furnish any information which we possess on any subject pertaining to cypress, or other woods, in any shape, from the growing tree to the finished product.

We shall limit ourselves in this edition to a very brief recital of the most essential facts concerning the wood and its treatment in the manufacture and finish of our specialties, touching only briefly upon the many other woods which we handle.

*Everything in Wood or Woodwork*

## How to Reach Us

OUR main office, mills, factories, wharves, dry-houses etc., are situated at NEPONSET, in that portion of the City of Boston formerly comprised within the old and historic Town of Dorchester.

Customers wishing to visit our main office or mills should take a train on the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad at the SOUTH STATION in Boston. The distance from Boston to Neponset is less than five miles and the time in transit but from ten to fifteen minutes. There is also communication every few minutes by several lines of electric street cars.

For the convenience of customers and others who have not sufficient time to visit Neponset, we have two branch offices in the City proper; one near the Post Office, at 166 Devonshire St. and 19 Federal St., the other at Haymarket Square, near the North Union Station, 1 Sudbury St., cor. Merrimac St. At both places visitors will find an exhibit of cypress and other woods, from which, some idea can be formed as to the exceptional character of our work and the superiority of our lumber. We are also represented upon the floors of the Master Builders' Association and the Builders' and Contractors' Association.

Our Post Office Address is NEPONSET, BOSTON, MASS., mail matter being delivered there at an early hour in the morning and at intervals throughout the day. Customers will avoid delay and thus secure more prompt attention to their wants if they will address us accordingly, and not at our Boston offices.

All of our offices are connected by telephone and persons at a distance may find our long distance service of convenience to them.



## Our Facilities

OUR Mr. A. T. Stearns, the founder and President of this Company, was the pioneer in the introduction of CYPRESS in the North and has since been recognized as the leading dealer in this wood. Following in his footsteps, and under his leadership, this Company continues to make a conspicuous specialty of this lumber.

With mills at the South sawing CYPRESS, HARD PINE, ASH and other woods, expressly for us,—with yards North and South containing many millions of feet on sticks seasoning at all times,—with dry-houses at Neponset holding more than a million feet and having an almost unlimited capacity for drying,—with mills and factories containing the newest and most improved machinery, no expense is spared to reach the best results in supplying an ever-increasing demand for reliable lumber and reliable goods.

We wish to say to all users of wood for building material, including everything from sills to finials, that if they will look carefully into the merits of STEARNS' CYPRESS, and give us an opportunity to tell them what we know about it, and show them what we have to offer, we feel sure that their interest will be well bestowed and that the result will be to their manifest advantage. We have exceptional facilities for furnishing stock or goods, in great variety and in any quantity. We have the latest improvements in machinery for smoothing mouldings, sheathing, and other woodwork, at a great saving over the cost of hand work. Our mouldings before smoothing are far superior to most of the so-called hand-smoothed mouldings.

We solicit the favor of a visit to our mills, or, if that is impossible, to some one of our offices, and failing that, we desire the correspondence of all who may contemplate building, or who may be interested in the subject in any way. We shall, at all times, be pleased to answer inquiries, or to fill orders, large or small. Our experience of more than half a century is yours for the asking.

## Stearns' Florida Ash

AS this wood is somewhat more of a stranger than our better known Florida Gulf Cypress, we trust that the reader will pardon our presenting it at this time, prior to the introduction of our principal subject.

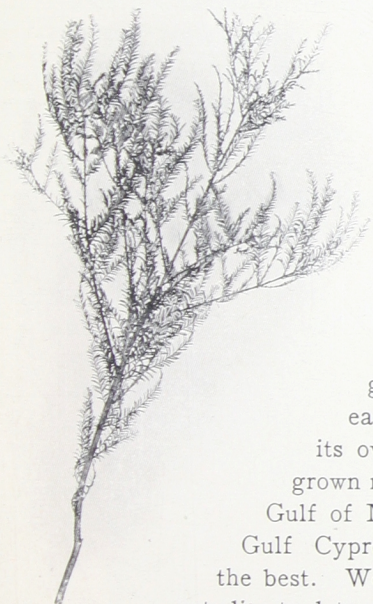
In our earlier editions brief reference was made to this Florida Ash, which has now taken such a conspicuous place among our choice specialties. It has proven to be an exceptionally fine variety, of light and uniform color, and has been warmly received. Some of it is almost equal to white mahogany. Specimens of furniture and interior work in this wood may be seen at our several offices, where we shall be greatly pleased to show them, and we can also show bank interiors, residences, and other buildings finished in this wood. It is simply beautiful. See illustration of bookcase herein, made of Florida Ash, shown under head of "Cabinet Work" on page 23.

We exercise the same careful selection of stock in the manufacture of our solid ash doors, which characterizes all of our work, and every door is warranted to stand better than the old White Pine standard.

We now offer our Florida Ash for all interior work with the confidence born of experience.



## Stearns' Florida Gulf Cypress



THERE are numerous species of cypress and as many qualities as there are species. In fact, there are almost as many grades of this wood as there are localities in which it grows. The wood of each locality possesses its own peculiarities, that grown near the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and known as Gulf Cypress being admittedly the best. We have made careful studies to determine where, upon the extensive Gulf coast, is grown the cypress best adapted to our work, and our success with this wood and the reputation our products have attained is the best possible proof that our conclusions have been correct. We have used the Louisiana red cypress, and cypress from Georgia and the Atlantic coast, and have found all of them inferior to ours.

We have no hesitation in affirming that STEARNS' CYPRESS specialties have given more universal satisfaction than any other in the market. Our cypress is of a much finer grain, is more easily worked, and is capable of receiving a much better finish than the cypress of other localities.

Cypress which grows a short distance further North is apt to be more shaky and is of an inferior color and quality. Care should be exercised by those intending to use cypress, to so word their specifications or orders that only the best of Gulf stock will be furnished them.

In the following pages our claims in behalf of cypress are made primarily for our own stock, that is, for STEARNS' CYPRESS. We cannot, of course, undertake to endorse inferior qualities or stock which has been improperly manufactured or insufficiently seasoned, for some so-called Cypress is in fact no better than Hemlock, and is often absolutely worthless for the purpose for which it is sold. We have one great advantage in the handling of Cypress, inasmuch as we control the entire cut from the time it leaves the log until it is in the perfect condition required for our use.



This condition is only reached by long seasoning in the south, in the native clime of the cypress tree. Seasoning in the North will not produce the same results, and the common practice of rushing unseasoned cypress into a dry-kiln is fatal.

Our stock in the South is piled under our own direction under the care of an experienced man, whose sole duty it is to see that the work is done in such a manner as to produce the best results, according to the purpose for which the stock is to be used. The length of time required for this



varies from one to five years or more, according to thickness and other conditions. There are no other manufacturers who give the same costly attention to this very important matter.

The faults which we most frequently hear that Cypress possesses are largely those common to all woods, but which in any new wood attract attention. There are imaginary faults too numerous to mention which are far more troublesome. If, however, our readers will look about them they will find that Stearns' Florida Gulf Cypress possesses more real merits and fewer faults than any of the woods now in use for building purposes.

We have many voluntary testimonials of appreciation of this fact from architects, builders, and owners who have recommended and used our cypress. Satisfy yourself that what we say is true; then, if you want to use this stock, see that your specifications read, that material shall be manufactured by and purchased from The A. T. Stearns Lumber Company.



## Uses and Characteristics of Stearns' Florida Gulf Cypress

ONE of the most notable characteristics of cypress is that the longer it is seasoned the better it becomes. It may be piled up and left untouched for years, and during that time will be continually growing better and more valuable. In fact, it is essential that cypress should be so piled and seasoned. Cypress is cheaper than white pine, and it will stand the weather better. It will shrink and swell less than pine or other woods. It will take paint better than spruce or pine, and the paint will not peel off. It is more durable than any of the woods in common use. It contains no pitch, and will resist fire much longer than other woods; its tendency when exposed to fire being to smolder rather than burst into flame. This point is of great value in a shingled roof.



Our cypress has a beautiful grain and much more character in appearance than pine, or whitewood, or than any of the usual run of woods.

It is a species of cedar, and is used at the present time for almost every purpose for which lumber is sold.

There is no wood so well adapted to such a great variety of purposes.



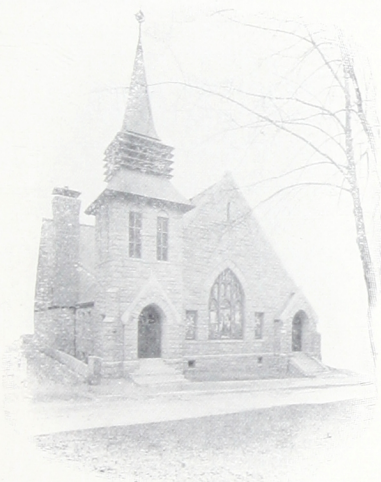
It is exceptionally well adapted for all interior and exterior work in the construction of residences, stores, office buildings, churches, schoolhouses, greenhouses and other buildings, both public and private.

For floors for mills, factories, stables, cellars, for the building of flumes, tanks, silos, etc., or for other purposes where the wood is likely to be exposed to moisture, there is nothing so durable among available woods.

For some purposes, where appearance is not of great importance, we often furnish a cheaper grade of cypress, which is just as durable.

Cypress has been used in some instances for framework of wooden buildings on account of its fire-resisting qualities, but its cost, being somewhat more than spruce, prevents its use to a great extent for this purpose.

Cypress was used to a very great extent by the United States Navy for deck planking, before the substitution of iron and steel, and it is now used by



many ship, yacht, and boat builders to great advantage and in many ways. In many of the floating palaces of the present day, cypress has been extensively used for interior finish with fine effect.

Extremes seem to meet in this wonderful wood, for, while in some sections of the South it is used, among other things, as a substitute for paving stones, it is used to some extent by Northern manufacturers in the building of pianos, organs, and other fine musical instruments.

Cypress, as it becomes better known, is rapidly supplanting White Pine. Those who have used it most now prefer and demand air-dried Cypress, claiming that it is far superior for nearly all purposes for which they formerly purchased White Pine.



## Durability of Cypress

CYPRESS has a world-wide reputation for durability. This has been demonstrated under every condition most adverse to other woods. It should be remembered, however, that cypress to prove durable must be free from sap.

History and the Bible teem with facts concerning the wonderful life of this wood, but our space

does not permit of much more than a bare statement of the fact.

We desire, however, to call attention to a few newspaper

notices which have come under our observation, and will then refer our readers to the encyclopedias and to our earlier editions of this volume.

(From the *Northwestern Lumberman* of Jan. 15, 1887.)

“At Charleston, the other day, the workmen, in examining the earthquake-shattered tower of St.





Michael's Church, found a coffin of cypress bearing the date of 1678.

“The wood was sound throughout, although the bones in the coffin had long ago turned to dust.”

(From the *Northwestern Lumberman*.)

“The phenomenal durability of cypress is believed to proceed from the presence in its natural chemical composition of an acid having the active qualities of creosote. There is, of course, some natural cause for its demonstrated proof against the ravages of water, air, and time, and that cause is equally, of course, of a chemical character. In other words, nature seems to have treated cypress in a manner somewhat corresponding, in its results, at least, to that of the artificial use of creosote as a preservative.”



The following appeared some time since in the *Boston Evening Record*, taken from the *Richmond Dispatch*:

#### AN OLD COLONIAL MANSION

“This house, from a tablet over the front door, was built by Michael Braun (now spelled Brown) in 1776, and is still owned and occupied by his descendants. The fireplace is eight feet wide, five feet high, and five feet deep, — sufficiently large to roast an ox, and of sufficient size to contain over a cord of wood. The house is forty by thirty, two stories, and is built of granite obtained near by; windows arched with granite blocks about the size of bricks, laid in mortar, now so strong that it would require a sharp pick and a strong arm to remove it; walls three feet thick; doors and window facings of black walnut; and the house covered with cypress shingles, which were

in such a state of preservation that they have only been removed since 1880 (104 years.) These shingles must have been wagoned from or near Charleston, South Carolina, 180 to 200 miles. The house was built on the then great traveled road from James River to the Catawba Indians by the trading fort on the Yadkin River. This fort was the home of the Lapona Indians when Lawson, who was sent from England by the proprietors, visited it in 1700."



## For Exterior Work

WOOD for this purpose should possess great durability, although too little attention is often paid to this point.

The exterior finish of a house or other wooden

building, including shingles, clapboards, gutters, conductors, sills and piazza frame, together with columns, rails, balusters, finials,



etc., constitutes no small fraction of the cost of the building, and if decay is rapid, as is the case with nearly all woods commonly used for outside work, repairs and the accompanying expense recur with a frequency not at all desirable. In fact such repairs often become a very serious burden.

Cypress costs less than any other suitable wood for exterior work; yet, were its cost considerable more, it would still be much more economical to use than something more perishable.

Cypress is not only more durable, but it will take paint better than other woods, and the paint will not peel off. This is another point of great



importance, for the expense of repainting is considerable, and no painter will guarantee a permanently nice appearance where paint has once peeled.

We have seen buildings shingled with cypress upon both roof and walls, upon which no stain or paint had been used. In time such buildings take on the beautiful gray color which is so greatly admired by many people, especially for a country, sea-shore or suburban residence. The natural qualities of the wood make it possible to use either shingles or clapboards in this way, without paint, and there is probably no other wood upon which vines can be grown with so much safety from injurious effects.



## For Interior Finish

CYPRESS for interiors has now a conspicuous place in the favor of architects, builders and owners. The varied effects obtainable are a source of surprise to everybody who is not familiar with it, and we can show residences where

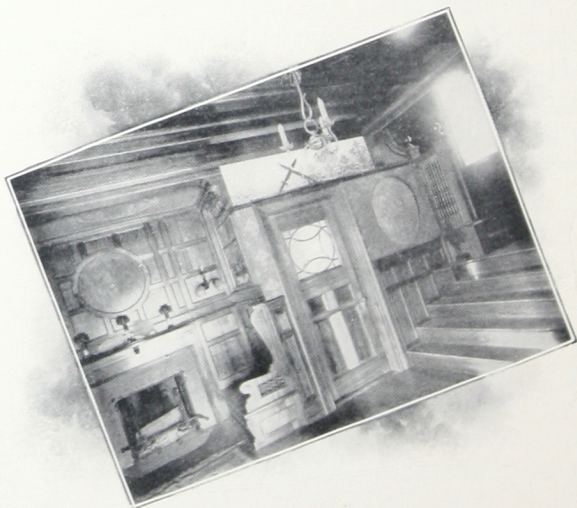
nearly every room is of an entirely different character, although finished in the same wood. It is susceptible of a very high polish, and when finished in the natural color of the wood is very handsome; some of it, in fact, is equal in beauty to any of the more expensive finishing woods in the market, and, finished



in this way, it requires little or no attention to preserve a fine appearance for many years.

It is also highly recommended by prominent architects as a basis for the ivory-white finish which many people fancy, but, in our opinion, the wood, when used for interiors, possesses too much natural beauty to be covered with paint.

Cypress is used to a considerable extent for floors for residences where they are not to be subjected to much wear. For carpeting, or when bestrewn with rugs, they are very nice, and have many advantages. They are not so noisy as hardwood floors, and the repugnance which bugs and



vermin are said to have for cypress ought to be some recommendation.

An interior of selected grains and color from our darker shades of Florida Gulf Cypress, finished in the natural wood, is a "dream of beauty" and is seldom rivaled, except in the grandeur of some old-world buildings of antiquity. Such a display must be seen to be appreciated, for we cannot make its beauty clear in type.

We have been frequently told by Real Estate men and large householders that houses finished in our cypress can be sold or let more readily and at better prices than if finished in some of the older and formerly better known woods.





## Churches

HEREIN will be found one or more views of churches wherein cypress has been used for interior or exterior woodwork, or both. A cypress exterior will recommend itself to any intelligent buyer for reasons which are common to all buildings, but for interior woodwork cypress seems to fill a place for church purposes which has never been attained by any other wood. This is due, no doubt, to the combination of great beauty and reasonable cost.

We wish to invite the particular attention of Clergymen, Church Trustees and Building Committees to Stearns' Florida Gulf Cypress for all woodwork of churches, and shall take much pleasure in personally showing some of the buildings in which this material has been used.



## Hotels

WE have furnished a great many hotels throughout New England and the Middle States, including summer and winter resorts from Nova Scotia to Florida. We supplied in one instance over 1500 doors for a single popular winter



hotel in North Carolina, and in another case a considerable quantity to California.

We want everybody who contemplates invest-

ing any money in the building or remodeling of hotel property to see some of our cypress woodwork before completing specifications. We can fully recommend Stearns' Florida Gulf Cypress for use in city or country, in any climate, seashore or mountains, for both interior and exterior work, North or South. This recommendation includes Stearns' Cypress Shingles and Cypress Clapboarding. All we ask is careful investigation of this recommendation.





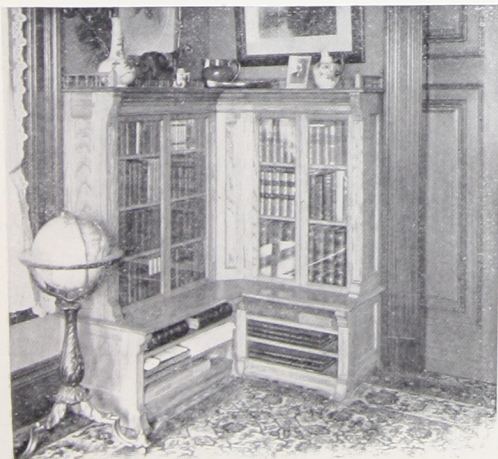
## School and College Buildings

PROBABLY we have numbered, among the structures for which we have furnished our Florida Gulf Cypress, as many school and collegebuildings, classrooms, dormitories, gymnasiums, etc., as of any other single class, excepting residences, and we shall hope that all who are interested in such buildings will take occasion to look into the subject of the adaptability of Stearns' Florida Gulf Cypress for such work.



## Cabinet Work

THE illustration shows a corner bookcase, built at our factory, from one of our special designs, to fill a certain space in a private library. The cupboard in the corner util-



izes a recess not available for book shelves, and affords a very convenient receptacle for many small articles, while the wide shelves below may be used for atlases and other large books. The wood used in this particular piece is Florida Ash, but we can furnish almost any kind of wood required.

We make a great many sideboards and other articles of furniture to correspond with finish of rooms in which they are to be placed.

We furnish many designs ourselves, and construct some very handsome work from the drawings of architects. If our customers can furnish dimensions, and give us some idea of what is wanted, we can usually design something for them which is entirely satisfactory.



## Stables

CYPRESS is so well adapted for every description of stable work, interior and exterior, under and over, that it seems proper to call particular attention to the fact under a separate heading.



There are many places in and about a stable which require a more than usually durable lumber. This is true about the carriage wash, about the stalls and in the stable

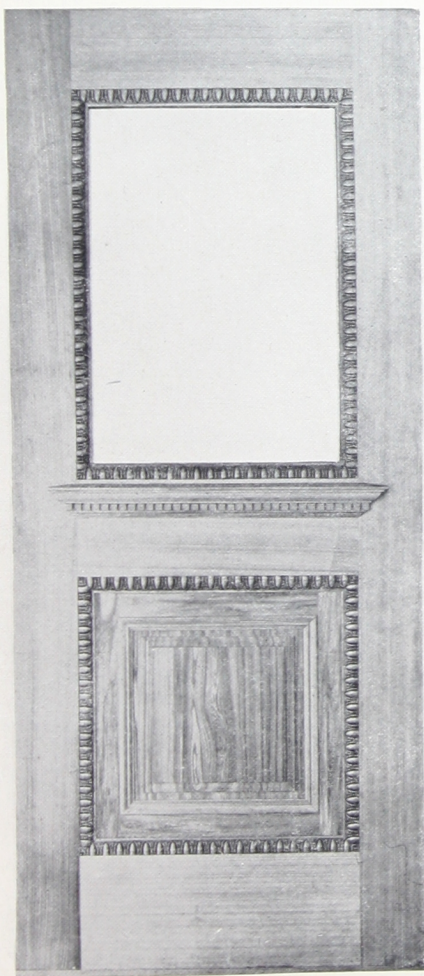
cellar for flooring and other purposes. Here is just the place for cypress, which can be furnished in Choice stock or a Coarse quality, as may be desired. Both qualities can be furnished, free from sap, and equally durable.

In the finer and more costly stables our Choice Cypress Sheathing and other Cypress Finish make a very appropriate interior, and if varnished, a permanently handsome one.



## Our Door Factory

OUR doors are made to order in the best possible manner from carefully selected woods of all kinds, and we carry in stock all common sizes of certain selected patterns of Cypress Doors.



Our facilities in this department are unsurpassed for turning out veneered or solid work of every description.

Our Ash and Cypress doors are usually made solid, except where rooms are to be finished in a

variety of woods, in which case it becomes necessary to furnish veneered work.

We manufacture doors of oak, sycamore, mahogany, and all the other woods used for the purpose, and our work in the hardwood line cannot be excelled. Hardwood doors, except in the case of our Florida Ash, are generally veneered upon a core of softer wood.



Like most other good things, our doors have met with a competition which in itself is the strongest possible recommendation and endorsement. Many manufacturers claim that their doors are "just as good as Stearns'." That claim was doubtless

what induced the builder referred to in the following circular to venture from the path of safety. This circular is one which we felt compelled to issue some time since, in justice to ourselves and our customers, and as it illustrates a more or less common practice, it will bear frequent repetition :

### CAUTION

"Some months ago we offered to furnish a lot of cypress doors for a building in a neighboring town, and, as is customary with us, guaranteed that they would stand. In the course of time the building was finished and occupied.

"Complaints soon followed, and the architect, after investigation, reported to us that the doors, with but four exceptions, had 'all gone to pieces,' as he expressed it. It was supposed by the architect and owner that the builder had purchased the doors from this company, as it was agreed he should do so, and the man himself asserted that he had actually purchased our doors.

"Further investigation developed the fact that he actually had purchased *four* of our doors through a local dealer, and they were the four exceptions noted above which, to use the architect's own words, had not 'started a hair.' We are now making doors to take the place of those which the builder had purchased elsewhere.

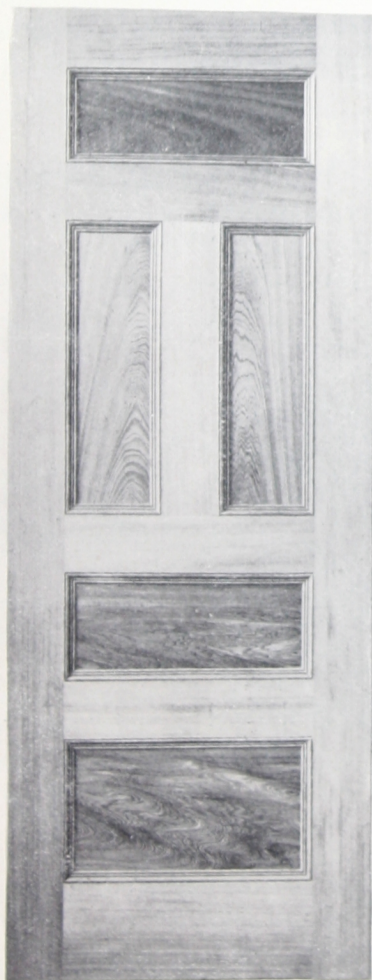
"It is not necessary for us to point a moral in this, but, as it is one of many similar cases, we think a word of caution may not come amiss."

Instances like, or similar to, that referred to have been and are still so frequent, that we think the public should be properly warned. Recogniz-



ing the danger of substitution, many prominent architects are now inserting in their specifications that material shall be manufactured by and purchased from The A. T. Stearns Lumber Company. "Better be sure than sorry."

*SEND FOR BOOK SHOWING PATTERNS OF DOORS*



## Stearns' Solid Cypress Doors

**O**UR solid cypress doors have maintained their wide and enviable reputation. Made from the best of Florida Gulf stock, we make a point of warranting every door. They

will stand better than pine. Comparison of our doors with those of other makers will convince all of their superiority, both as to construction and appearance. For beauty they have no equal, and for rich and varied effects there is no wood available for the purpose which can compare with our cypress. We wish that everybody who is building or ever expects to build would favor us with an inspection of our stock. We ask nothing more.

## Cypress Windows

OUR facilities for the manufacture of cypress sash are ever upon the increase, in order to provide for the growing demand.

People who have become convinced of the superiority of cypress for other purposes are unwilling to use inferior woods for windows, where the conditions are more variable than in any other portion of a building.

Exposed on the inside now to the effect of furnace heat and then to the humid atmosphere of summer, with all the intermediate changes, and on the outside to the

intense heat of the direct rays of the sun, followed, perhaps, by rain or snow; subjected to heat and cold, wet and dry, alternately; required at all times and under all circumstances to work up and down, freely and easily, without being loose enough to permit the ingress of cold or storm and expected to resist decay and abuse under all conceivable





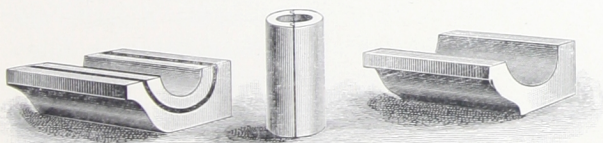
able conditions most adverse to durability, it may well be said that nothing but the best is good enough for windows. We are sending our cypress sash and cypress store fronts all over New England, and they are admittedly superior to all others.

We can furnish glazed windows and blinds, including any quality of glass desired. We can furnish window weights and cords as well as blind hinges and fastenings to those who desire them.



## Stearns' Cypress Gutters and Conductors

OUR gutters and conductors have been on the market for many years, and are well known to be the best. They are made of cypress sawed for the express purpose. They will not



rust out like tin or galvanized iron, nor will they wear out like copper. Many attempts have been made to substitute other woods for these purposes, but they have failed to fulfil requirements, and persons who have experimented with the view of determining the actual merits of the different woods now insist upon having cypress.

There are many ways of hanging these gutters, most of which are familiar to those who have used them. To those who have not used them, we shall be pleased to send sketches and suggestions. It is not necessary to pitch, or incline them, or to dig them out in order to create a flow of water. If put on level, they will give perfect satisfaction. In splicing, they may be butted square or mitered, as desired, and the joint covered with a strip of sheet lead carefully tacked down all around; the tacks being small and very close together.

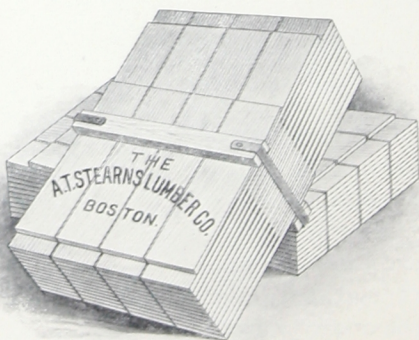
Our cypress conductors, besides being far more durable, make a better, more appropriate, and more attractive finish to a wooden building than anything on the market. Our new corrugated patterns are an improvement over the older styles. Metallic conductors rapidly deteriorate and they are being replaced with our more durable cypress conductors.

Those using our conductors should also use our malleable conductor irons, which screw into the woodwork and are adjustable. We furnish these at about cost, and no other iron should be accepted.



## Cypress Shingles

OUR cypress shingles are manufactured expressly for us, according to careful specifications, and are sawed, packed and seasoned at the South under our personal super-



vision and direction. We know of no other brand of cypress shingles which receives like care and attention.

We first offered these shingles to our customers many years ago, and have maintained during the entire interval the same careful grading and inspection which we first instituted, and while many inferior brands, some of them little better than pasteboard, have been put upon the market, STEARNS' FLORIDA GULF CYPRESS SHINGLES have maintained their high standard unchanged, and are to-day, as they were years ago, the best on the market.



## CLASSIFICATION

Our SAWED shingles are  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick at the butt and are 18 ins. long. Our PLANED shingles are sawed on one side and planed on the other — may be laid either side up —  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. thick, of the same length as the sawed shingles. We make both thicknesses in all widths and qualities as follows:—

EXTRA. Dimension shingle. Rift grain. All heart and free from defects.

No. 1. Put up in

both dimension and random widths. **FIRST QUALITY**, all heart, differing from the “Extra” only in not being all rift sawed.

SAP. Dimension shingle; free from all defects except Sap. Suitable for walls to be painted.

In addition to the above, we make at our Neponset factory, a limited quantity of cypress shingles which are in great demand for walls. They are described and designated as follows:—

S. L. CO.

This brand measures 14 ins. in length,  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. thick at butt. Dimension shingle, each width separately bunched,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 5 and 6 ins. wide. **FIRST QUALITY.** Free from sap or other defects.



## COVERING CAPACITY

Below will be found the number of square feet per thousand pieces which may be covered with our 18 in. shingles of various widths.

|         |  |            |             |
|---------|--|------------|-------------|
| 4 x 18, | laid $5\frac{3}{4}$ ins. to the weather, | will cover | 167 sq. ft. |
| 5 x 18, | " " " " " " " "                          | " "        | 209 " "     |
| 6 x 18, | " " " " " " " "                          | " "        | 252 " "     |

R a n d o m widths, eight bundles to the thousand, (4 in. basis) 21 in. band, full count will cover, laid  $5\frac{3}{4}$  in., 166 sq. ft.; laid 6 in., 175 sq. ft.



## DURABILITY AND COST

In another chapter, under the head of "DURABILITY OF CYPRESS," may be found some reference to the durability of cypress shingles, which have been in use for many generations in some sections of the country. Our heart cypress shingles will last two or three times as long as the best sawed pine or cedar, and cost no more for an equal

a r e a. I t must be borne in mind that these shingles, being longer, can be laid with a greater portion of their length



exposed to the weather, and will, therefore, cover a greater number of square feet, and while the price per thousand may be greater, the actual cost for a certain area may be considerably less. It should be borne in mind, too, that there are fewer



shingles to be laid in covering a certain area, and this requires fewer nails and less labor.

We have used cypress shingles ourselves under all conditions, and have furnished many millions of them throughout New England and the Middle States. They are equally well adapted for interior or sea-shore locations.

A Boston lumber dealer publishes a circular which incidentally gives the life of shingles other than cypress.

We append that portion of it herewith:—

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| California Redwood . . . . . | 25 to 30 years. |
| Sawed Pine . . . . .         | 16 to 20 ,,     |
| ,, Cedar . . . . .           | 12 to 15 ,,     |
| ,, Spruce . . . . .          | 5 to 7 ,,       |

The circular has reference to the best quality only. Please compare it with the life of our cypress shingles.

Cypress shingles are considered a great safe-guard against the spread of fire by falling sparks

and burning embers. We have referred to this point under “USES AND CHARACTERISTICS OF CYPRESS” upon a previous page.

#### WIDTH

We are often asked for information concerning the widths best adapted for making a good roof. Cypress is not open to the same objections as other woods. There is very little shrinking or swelling and very little tendency to check or curl, yet for the same



reason that narrow strips make the best flooring, so narrow shingles make the best roof when well laid, proper attention being given to the "breaking" of joints. We make more 4 in. shingles and sell more of that width than of the wider widths,

and they cost less money for the reason that we find more material from which to make the narrow shingles. We have customers who, regardless of price, will use nothing wider



than a 4 in. shingle. This is the width we use in our own work, and we have no hesitation in recommending them to our friends who want a first-class roof.

### FANCY CUT SHINGLES

Person desiring cut or fancy shingles for walls will oblige us by sending for special sheets showing our numerous patterns, from which, perhaps, a selection may be made. We can, however, make any special pattern that may be wanted. Our S. L. Co. brand of short and narrow shingles makes very pretty work upon walls when laid in an irregular manner.

### COLOR

Under the title "FOR EXTERIOR WORK," we have already stated that cypress, without stain or other treatment, will, in time, take on the beautiful





gray color which is so greatly admired. If an immediate gray effect is wanted, it might be produced by using some of the "lichen gray" stains so called. These stains are not, we believe, very permanent, but they might serve a purpose while the wood itself was acquiring its natural gray effect, the stain gradually disappearing as the natural color appeared. We offer this simply as a suggestion, not being able to speak from experience upon the subject of shingle stains.



Upon buildings where our shingles have been used, and where we have noticed the charming gray shade referred to, no stains or other substance whatever have been used, time alone being necessary to reach the desired result. We do not think that either staining or painting adds to the durability of a shingled roof.

### SHINGLE NAILS

During the past two or three years we have heard much complaint because of the rusting off of nails, and after a careful investigation we are led to

advise our customers to avoid the use of steel nails in any form, whether cut or wire. We find that a cut nail made of best refined iron is the most reliable nail to use, especially for exterior



work. The Mount Hope Iron Company, of Boston, manufacture such a nail and warrant it to last as long as the wood will last. This is all that can be required of any nail. We, therefore, recommend a refined iron cut nail, either 3½d. or 4d., according to the thickness of the shingle.

## Stearns' Cypress Clapboarding

**W**E now carry in stock, ready for immediate delivery, a full assortment of widths and qualities, in random and stock lengths up to 16 ft.; longer ones can be furnished if desired.



The advantage of using long clapboards are many. There is much less waste in cutting to length, short splicing is entirely avoided, and

far better work is the result. This cypress clapboarding is butted ready for use, and can be furnished either plain or rabbeted (3, 4, 5, or 6 in.) in all qualities as follows:—

**RIFT.** Rift grain and free from all defects.

**CHOICE.** First quality, differing only in not being rift sawed.

**CLEAR.** More or less sappy, but otherwise free from all defects.





We call attention to cuts herewith, showing both the plain and rabbeted clapboarding. It will be seen that in one case the nail passes through two clapboards, while in the other it passes through only one — a manifest advantage in

favor of the latter in case of shrinkage, which in the first case may result in splitting. This rabbeting is a feature of our own, which has met with great favor. Its purpose is to make tighter joints, and to enable them to be laid more rapidly and with greater accuracy. It has the advantage of laying close to the boarding, and nails being driven just above the rabbet, splitting is entirely overcome. In case of accident and possible mutilation any single piece may be readily removed and replaced, without in any way damaging the others.

Rabbeted clapboards will always show even faces, and, besides making tighter work, are better and more economical to use. They will cover as follows: —

1000 ft. (face measure) 3 in. clapboards,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ins. to weather. Will cover 833 sq. ft.

1000 ft. (face measure) 4 in. clapboards,  $3\frac{3}{8}$  ins. to weather. Will cover 844 sq. ft.

1000 ft. (face measure) 5 in. clapboards,  $4\frac{3}{8}$  ins. to weather. Will cover 875 sq. ft.

The plain clapboards will, of course, cover more or less surface, as they may be exposed to the weather.

Remember that cypress clapboarding will take paint better than spruce, pine, or other woods, and the paint will not peel off.

## Cypress Columns

WE can furnish solid turned cypress columns (sawed from the quarter of the log) up to 12 or 14 ins. in diameter, which are very handsome and much to be preferred to other

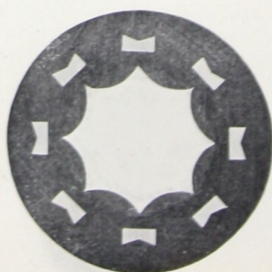


wood, if for no other reason than their durability. We have special machinery for boring lengthwise through the center of columns and squares up to 16 ft. in length when it is desired.

The cuts below illustrate our cypress lock-joint,

built-up or "stave" column. We have also other designs of built-up columns which we shall be glad to show.

The durability of cypress really makes it the only wood which ought to be used for outdoor columns, or for any work about a piazza. A coarse grade, equally durable, can be furnished for sills and piazza framework.





## Cypress Fences

TOO-FRIENDLY neighbors and an indiscriminating public make fences upon rear lines almost a necessity, and, as a matter of fact, a neat fence upon rear or side lines of a city or country lot is not unsightly; and if built of cypress and overgrown with woodbine or other vines, it becomes a "thing of beauty." We say if built of cypress because upon no other wood can vines be grown with equal immunity from deterioration. There is no wood which is so well adapted for both rails and pickets, which will take paint and hold it so well, or which will make a more attractive appearance, or retain its good appearance so long, whether painted or unpainted; whether covered with vines or otherwise. We can



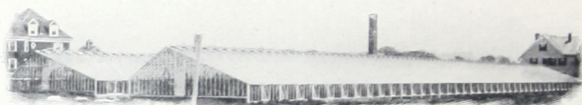
furnish cypress pickets without sap, when so ordered, and no other should be used if the fence is to remain unpainted, or where the greatest durability is desired.

Of even more importance than the pickets are the rails to which the pickets are secured. These rails should be made of a wood certainly not less durable than the pickets; in other words, we recommend our Florida Gulf cypress, without sap, for all fence rails. We have furnished quantities of cypress squares for fence posts, although a post of red cedar admirably answers the purpose. We have supplied many thousand miles of fence to cities and towns, railroads, cemeteries, corporations, and individuals, and, consequently, speak from a large and extended experience. We can furnish stock of any shape, either rough or dressed, as may be desired.

## Greenhouse Stock

WE are furnishing enormous quantities of cypress sash bars and other stock for greenhouses, hot beds, etc., and would respectfully ask those interested in this particular branch to send for our special circular showing cuts of all the various parts used in construction.

We can furnish cypress sash bars up to 32 ft. in length, or longer.



Our stock is old air-dried lumber, sawed expressly for us. A trial will convince any one of its superiority.



## Tanks and Flumes

CYPRESS is probably at this time more extensively used in paper, pulp, and textile mills, dry houses, breweries, etc., for the construction of flumes, tanks, vats, and for mill floors exposed to dampness than any other kind of

lumber. It is also used extensively by the makers of paper mill machinery and of creamery apparatus. The wonderful durability of cypress makes it especially desirable for such purposes.



We have furnished for some of the wood-pulp mills, both in Canada and the United States, a type of tank or tower

over 100 ft. in height, and we also furnish material for penstocks, which may be built of unlimited length.



Our tank factory occupies a separate building, fitted with special machinery designed expressly for the manufacture of tanks and kindred articles, large or small, including all necessary hoops or other iron work. We handle yellow pine, cypress, and other woods from the stump, and our facilities and stock cannot be equaled, while our workmanship is the very best obtainable.



We are furnishing large quantities of lumber for flumes, dams, and other structures in or about water-power plants, and it has given excellent satisfaction. A coarse grade of cypress timber and planking is often used when only strength and durability are required. Making a specialty of all this class of work, we can furnish just what may be wanted.

### SILOS

The ensiling of grain has been crudely carried on since very early times by the Egyptians, Mexicans, Indians, and other races, while the use of the silo for the preservation of green food probably commenced late in the eighteenth century, over one hundred years ago. In this country its use has been steadily increasing since about 1875 in all dairy districts, until the demand for the modern silo has become very great.

It is now conceded that the round wooden tank, or stave silo, properly constructed of suitable material, well and strongly hooped with iron bands or rods equipped with iron draw-lugs, makes the strongest and best silo, regardless of the fact that it is also the cheapest form of construction. It is very important, however, that some more than usually durable wood should be used to resist the acid-charged moisture which is generated. Hence, cypress of a proper quality and growth is the best

material out of which such a silo can be constructed. See article in this book on "Durability of Cypress," also article entitled "Stearns' Florida Gulf Cypress."

It will be observed that we handle Florida Gulf cypress from the stump. This is a great advantage and enables us to select our silo stock at the mill, where we saw it for this express purpose; it is then seasoned in the South, entirely by natural means; two very important considerations. No other manufacturer does this. As a silo is made in much the same way as a first-class water tank, all of our silo work is done in our tank factory which is equipped with machinery built expressly for this business, and where we have men skilled in tank and



silo work. We probably get out more of this class of work than any other silo builders in the country. Our staves are worked concave and convex in order to insure a finished exterior as well as a smooth interior. All joints are made absolutely tight. Staves are finished in one piece from top to bottom, our silo stock being sawed in long lengths to avoid undesirable splicing. We can furnish staves of any length up to 30 or 35 ft., and occasionally longer.

The round stave silo, besides being better and cheaper than other types, is, if properly made, an ornament to any place. There is nothing better, and if made of a suitable growth and quality of cypress, there is nothing more durable. It is not necessary to treat such cypress with any preserving material or compound.

We quote from "Farmers' Bulletin No. 32," on



the subject of "Silos and Silage," published in 1895 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C., as follows: —

"Make the silo deep, for the greater the depth the greater will be the pressure on that below, thus forcing out air from the fodder and insuring better silage. Shallow silos as a rule give less satisfactory results than deep ones, as there are larger air spaces in the silage, owing to lack of pressure. Wherever practicable the silos should have a depth of not less than 24 ft., while more satisfactory results may be expected if it is 10 ft. deeper. If necessary, the silo may extend 4 or 5 ft. below the surface in order to obtain such a depth. It must, however, be borne in mind that



good silos may be built 20 ft. and even less in depth. Make the silo walls smooth. After the silage is placed in the pit, it should settle evenly and easily."

The same bulletin says, for a round silo, 30 ft. deep, King gives the following dimensions for herds of different sizes, estimating 5 sq. ft. of surface silage for one cow: —

|          |              |        |          |      |     | Feet.            |
|----------|--------------|--------|----------|------|-----|------------------|
| 30 cows, | 150 sq. ft., | inside | diameter | silo | ... | 14               |
| 40 "     | 200 "        | " "    | " "      | " "  | ... | 16               |
| 50 "     | 250 "        | " "    | " "      | " "  | ... | 18               |
| 60 "     | 300 "        | " "    | " "      | " "  | ... | 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 70 "     | 350 "        | " "    | " "      | " "  | ... | 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 80 "     | 400 "        | " "    | " "      | " "  | ... | 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 90 "     | 450 "        | " "    | " "      | " "  | ... | 24               |
| 100 "    | 500 "        | " "    | " "      | " "  | ... | 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ |

We shall be pleased to answer all questions to the best of our ability, and we invite correspondence upon the subject.



## Staining

WE have never favored the staining of cypress or the use of any color whatever in the finishing of this beautiful wood. We consider it far too handsome to disguise in any way. Cypress will take stains well, however, and we know that many architects and

others have produced very fine effects in cypress through their use.

We believe, nevertheless, that with our dark cypress we

can eclipse all such efforts and produce much richer effects without the use of artificial colors.

Our Florida Ash has been very successfully stained to produce certain desired effects, and is very handsome when so treated. We would like to show specimens in both the natural color and in various shades of stain.



## Painting

WITH the introduction of cypress to Northern markets, we heard from those who had never seen or used the wood that it was utterly worthless. Among the most conspicuous faults which such men imagined was that it would not take paint. They urged this so persist-



ently that it is only recently that we have ceased to receive inquiries if such were the fact.

With thousands of buildings now erected in New England alone having cypress for exterior or interior work, and taking paint and holding it better than any of the woods previously in use, we feel that further argument is unnecessary.

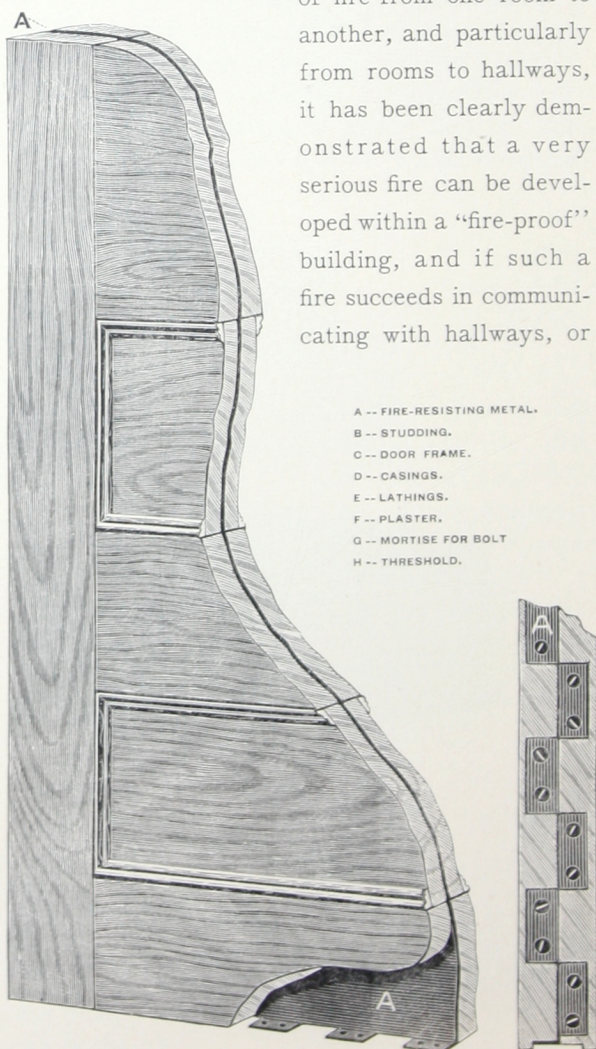
We advise, however, for exterior work, when it can be done as well as not, that the priming coat of paint should closely follow the carpenter. The carpenter can, in fact, apply this coat himself as he goes along, or near the close of his day's work. The work costs no more when done in this way, and the final result is somewhat smoother work, whatever kind of wood is used.



## Stearns' Fire-Resisting Door.

With this method, the interior of the modern "fire-proof" structure can be made more fire-proof while the appearance will differ in no respect from the usual finish found in most fine buildings. Unless some attempt is made to retard the progress

of fire from one room to another, and particularly from rooms to hallways, it has been clearly demonstrated that a very serious fire can be developed within a "fire-proof" building, and if such a fire succeeds in communicating with hallways, or



A—Indicates Fire-Resisting Metal. See next page.

PATENTED OCTOBER 10th, 1899.

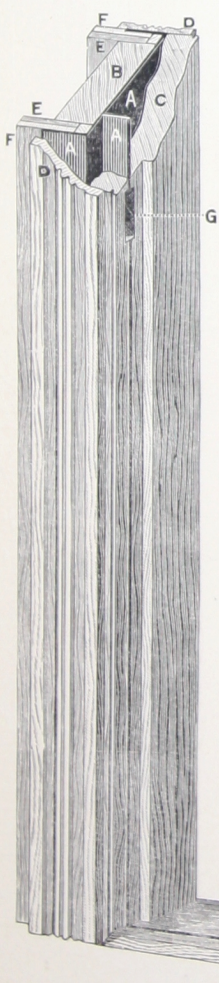


if smoke finds its way in any quantity to stairways, the lives of all occupants in higher apartments are greatly endangered.

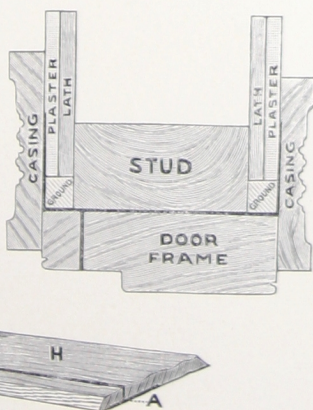
Heretofore, little attention has been paid to this point, because of the unsightliness of previously existing fire-proof doors. But it is now possible to make the so called "fire-proof" structures absolutely safe, and at the same time to allow the architect full sway in the production of fine

effects in the way of wood-work, in both doors and finish.

An examination of the drawings herewith will show just how this result is reached. It is of course intended that the lathing shall be of wire. Correspondence is invited in regard to this improvement.



DARK LINE INDICATES  
FIRE-RESISTING MATERIAL.



PATENTED OCTOBER 10, 1899.





